

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my/our name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled DEVICE FOR PROTECTING A CONTAINER AND CONTAINER EQUIPPED THEREWITH the specification of which

(check one)

_____ is attached hereto.

X was filed on September 7, 2001 as

Application Serial No. 09/936,093

and was amended on September 7, 2001

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under title 35, United States Code 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s).

			Priority Claimed
<u>99 05055</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>April 19, 1999</u>	<u>Yes</u> No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Yes No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Yes No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>PCT/FR00/01010</u>	<u>April 18, 2000</u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
		(patented, pending, abandoned)
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
		(patented, pending, abandoned)

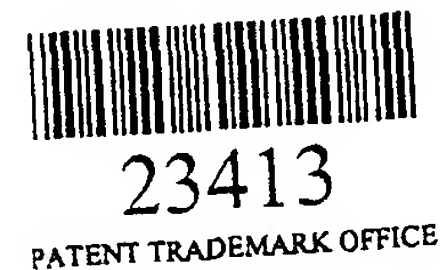
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING DATE

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Michael A. Cantor	-	Registration No. 31,152
Philmore H. Colburn II	-	Registration No. 35,101
Keith J. Murphy	-	Registration No. 33,979
Leah M. Reimer	-	Registration No. 39,341
David A. Fox	-	Registration No. 38,807
William J. Cass	-	Registration No. 41,659
Michael J. Rye	-	Registration No. 34,422
Pamela J. Curbelo	-	Registration No. 34,676
Andrew Ryan	-	Registration No. 43,070
Herbert M. Bedingfield	-	Registration No. 44,530
Timothy J. Olson	-	Registration No. 42,962
Robert J. Feltovic	-	Registration No. 27,710
Christopher C. Boehm	-	Registration No. 41,624
J. Michael Buchanan	-	Registration No. 44,571
George J. Lyman	-	Registration No. 44,884
Karen A. Jalbert	-	Registration No. 39,237
Deborah B. Crenshaw	-	Registration No. 41,689
Leonard E. Heyman	-	Registration No. 40,418
Marisa J. Dubuc	-	Registration No. 46,673
Roberta A. Pelletier	-	Registration No. 46,372
Michael J. Chang	-	Registration No. 46,611
Daniel F. Drexler	-	Registration No. 47,535
James J. Merrick	-	Registration No. 43,801
Troy J. LaMontagne	-	Registration No. 47,239
Charles F. O'Brien	-	Registration No. 47,314
Sean F. Sullivan	-	Registration No. 38,328
Eirc M. Parham	-	Registration No. 45,747
Michael J. Kelly	-	Registration No. 27,910



Send Correspondence to:
55 Griffin South Road
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Direct Telephone Calls To:
Michael A. Cantor
Philmore H. Colburn II
(860) 286-2929

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole

or first inventor: Claude Leon Hembert

Inventor's signature:

Claude Leon Hembert 09/25/2001
Date

Residence: 43 rue des Bordes, 36400 La Chatre, France

Citizenship: France

Post Office Address: 43 rue des Bordes, 36400 La Chatre, France